DOCKET NO.: 307730.01 / MSFT-5036

Application No.: 10/823,870

Office Action Dated: August 20, 2007

PATENT REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.116

REMARKS

Claims 1, 7-9, 15-17, 21-22 and 26 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 9, 15, 17, 21, 22 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiter et al (US patent No. 5,752,243, hereinafter "Reiter") in view of Bumbulis (US patent application No. 2003/0204513, hereinafter "Bumbulis") and further in view of Burnett (US patent application publication No. 2002/0152226, hereinafter "Burnett"). Claims 8 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiter in view of Bumbulis and further in view of Burnett and further in view of Cheng et al. (US patent No. 5,204,958, hereinafter "Cheng") and further in view of Beyer et al. (US patent application publication No. 2006/0173927, hereinafter "Beyer").

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

On November 14, 2007, Examiners Cam Troung and Dennis Myint and Applicants' undersigned representative, Mr. Eiferman, participated in a telephonic interview. During the interview, Mr. Eiferman proposed the claim amendments herein. Examiners Cam Troung and Dennis Myint stated that the claim amendments and remarks herein appeared to overcome the rejections in the final Office Action.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 7, 9, 15, 17, 21, 22 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiter in view of Bumbulis and further in view of Burnett. Claims 8 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiter in view of Bumbulis and further in view of Burnett and further in view of Cheng and further in view of Beyer.

Independent claims 1, 9, 17 and 22 have been amended in order to further clarify the claim language. Independent claim 1 now recites in part: "wherein the excised range of consecutive keys satisfy a range query "Y/" $\leq v \leq$ "Y/ ∞ ", wherein "Y" represents the element of the file system to be renamed, "v" represents keys in the B-tree, and " ∞ " represents a special character defined to be greater than all characters in a set of